SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 707

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the Johnson City Country Club for its placement on the National Register of Historic Sites.

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the members of this General Assembly should recognize and applaud those notable organizations striving to preserve and lift up the historical significance of Tennessee locales that embody factual stories and artifacts depicting the social evolution of this great State; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy organization is Johnson City Country Club whose members were most pleased to have the club placed on the National Register of Historic Sites on November 15, 2011; and

WHEREAS, in order to be considered for the prestigious distinction of being placed on this National Register, properties must be associated with events that have made contributions to history, associated with the lives of significant people from the past, embody characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, and yield important historical information. Proudly, the Johnson City Country Club has passed muster in every distinguishing category and has earned this exemplary certification; and

WHEREAS, incorporated under the laws of the State of Tennessee on September 19, 1913, Johnson City Country Club is a general welfare, non-profit organization which is located within the city limits of Johnson City in the northeastern-most part of the State; and

WHEREAS, within the boundaries of the one hundred thirty-acre property lies a sphere of breath-taking beauty comprised of wooded rolling hills and vistas of the foothills of the Tennessee Appalachian Mountains, and Johnson City Country Club has served as a hub of social and leisure activities for local residents, as well as visitors from afar who come to embrace the splendor of the setting; and

WHEREAS, of significant historical value is the eighteen-hole golf course which was designed by the "Dean" of American golf course architecture, A. W. Tillinghast. The course assimilates the famed Tillinghast development concept, "the course beautiful," where natural features are incorporated as greens, bunkers, and natural hazards, which is, indeed, the perfect design to maximize the natural opportunities the exquisite terrain affords; and

WHEREAS, with many months of research and writing invested in the submission of the petition to the United States Department of the Interior's National Park Service, country club historical committee chairman Tony Ferro expressed gratitude saying, "I want to congratulate everyone who provided information or support toward this accomplishment, whether it was a small or large contribution. Without you this recognition locally, statewide and nationally would not have been possible."; and

WHEREAS, with the national designation comes greater assurance that future country club members and management will retain the historic beauty and design of the golf course, buildings, structures, and sites; and

WHEREAS, in addition to pride in the distinction, neighboring residents and retail establishments may well realize increases in property values, as well as unique marketing and public relations benefits; and

WHEREAS, through the preservation of historic properties such as the Johnson City Country Club, the citizens of Tennessee can continue to benefit from the panoramic history this great State boasts, and future generations will be afforded the lessons of our rich and diverse history and culture; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the members, staff, and good citizens of the Johnson City community be congratulated upon the placement of the Johnson City Country Club on the National Register of Historic Sites. This body extols its pride in their accomplishment and extends to them our best wishes for success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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